STARS CONNECTIONS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR SD-STARS - AUGUST 2021

REPORT CARD COMING SOON

This year, the South Dakota Department of Education will again use SD-STARS to make Report Card data available to school districts before it is released to the public. Read more...



FALL REGIONAL TRAININGS

In November, the SD-STARS team will provide trainings for district users of SD-STARS.

Morning session will focus on STARS Account Managers, and afternoon sessions will be for any district user who wishes to be trained by the SD-STARS team. You can attend one or both.

Below are the locations and times:

Tuesday, November 2nd - Mitchell - <u>STARS Account Manager (AM)</u> / <u>District Users (PM)</u>
Thursday, November 4th - Aberdeen - <u>STARS Account Manager (AM)</u> / <u>District Users (PM)</u>
Tuesday, November 9th - Rapid City - <u>STARS Account Manager (AM)</u> / <u>District Users (PM)</u>

Read more...



EDUCATORS DEVELOP DATA SKILLS

Since summer 2013, the SD-STARS team has facilitated courses for educators to help develop their data knowledge and skills. Read more...

ASSESSMENT AND DATA LITERACY INITIATIVE

The SD-STARS team has been working with the Assessment and Accountability Office on a new two-year initiative focused on developing and implementing an assessment and data literacy program that supports school improvement and student learning. Read more...

PROACTIVE ADMISSIONS, COLLEGE READINESS COURSEWORK

This fall, the South Dakota Department of Education will again use SD-STARS for two initiatives: proactive admissions and college readiness coursework. <u>Read more...</u>

SD-STARS QUICK LOOK







CHANGES TO THE TEAM

Brad Steckelberg left, Jay Lamb joined, and the department underwent a reorganization.

Read more...

IRB APPROVAL

In June, South Dakota State University Institutional Review Board (IRB) continued to grant SD-STARS approval. Read more...

UPDATED RESOURCES

Over the summer, the SD-STARS updated 25 DIGs. Read more...



PASSWORD RESET

If you have a non-K12 account, next time you log into SD-STARS you may need to create a new password. Follow the directions that appear. Contact STARSHelp@state.sd.us if you have any issues.



ROLLING OVER

SD-STARS is in the process of rolling over to the new school year. While roll over is in process, reports may not work or show accurate data. The roll over should be complete by August 6th.

ASK THE EXPERTS

The SD-STARS experts answer two questions from users.

- My district's data did not display any student data until late summer. Is there a way to see this data sooner?
- I am a STARS Account Manager. What do I need to do to be ready for the beginning of the school year?

NEW DATA IN SD-STARS

The SD-STARS team has been busy loading new data for SD-STARS users over the summer. Read more...

WANT TO KNOW WHAT DATA ARE IN SD-STARS? CLICK HERE!

STARS CERTIFIED TRAINERS

STARS Certified Trainers are located throughout the state and are ready and willing to answer your questions. They are available to conduct SD-STARS trainings for your school or district to help educators make the most out of SD-STARS. They have been trained by department staff on the SD-STARS system and are kept up to date on system developments and new reports. Districts can contact SCTs directly to request training at a cost to the district.



2021-22 STARS Certified Trainers.pdf

Download this file to access the names and email addresses of all STARS Certified Trainers!



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STARS ADVISORY GROUP

The STARS Advisory Group functions much like other district-involved groups at the department. The group gives districts a voice in discussions on possible changes to, and the future of, SD-STARS. This group positively impacts SD-STARS and works to improve the partnership and communication among the Department of Education's SD-STARS team, other department staff, and districts. Areas of discussion include new data sources, new reports, enhancements to current reports, changes to the SD-STARS portal, and district training and

support. For more information, please contact the SD-STARS team at STARSHelp@state.sd.us.

Listed below are the current members of the STARS Advisory Group:

- · Cheryl Butler, Edgemont
- Robin Curtis, Lyman
- · Nicole Hansen, Sioux Falls
- · Camille Kaul, Aberdeen
- · Angela Reder, Belle Fourche
- Troy Wiebe, Pierre



ABOUT US

South Dakota STARS Connections is a bi-monthly publication for South Dakota administrators and teachers, produced by the South Dakota Department of Education. This publication is intended to communicate news and events regarding the South Dakota Student Teacher Accountability and Reporting System (SD-STARS), our Statewide Longitudinal Data System. To view an online edition of this newsletter, go to doe.sd.gov/publications.aspx.

Contact us with story ideas or questions.

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